

## HOUSE APPROVES CRITICAL FUNDING FOR ELLSWORTH, CAMP RAPID, HOMESTAKE

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**December 11, 2009-Washington, DC**-The House of Representatives recently passed a consolidated or “omnibus” appropriations bill that includes funding requested by Rep. Herseth Sandlin for Camp Rapid, Ellsworth Air Force Base and infrastructure improvements at Homestake. The funding package, which passed with Rep. Herseth Sandlin’s support, combined six appropriations bills that Congress must pass to fund government operations and agencies for Fiscal Year 2010 including Transportation-HUD; Labor-HHS-Education; Commerce-Justice-Science; Military Construction-Veterans Affairs; Financial Services; and State-Foreign Operations.

"Funding for Camp Rapid and Ellsworth Air Force Base will ensure our men and women in uniform have the best training and facilities to prepare them for missions abroad," Rep. Herseth Sandlin said. "I'm also pleased with funding that supports continued progress toward greater scientific discovery at Homestake. I'm proud to lend my name to these important projects and I'm hopeful the President will soon sign them into law."

### ***Funding requested by Rep. Herseth Sandlin included in the final package:***

- **\$14.5 million, ADAL Deployment Center, Ellsworth AFB**
- This facility will significantly upgrade Ellsworth’s ability to deploy personnel overseas. The

new deployment center will consolidate passenger briefing/holding areas, counseling rooms, deployment control center, supply, cargo storage, cargo processing and administrative areas. It will store all mobility bags and also provide a weapons storage area. The deployment center will minimize bag drag and distance to aircraft while improving process flow.

- **\$7.89 million, Joint Forces HQ Readiness Center Supplement, Camp Rapid**

- This facility will complete the construction of the Camp Rapid JFHQ which began in 2009 and will provide modern facilities for soldiers and employees working within the Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO) and South Dakota Army National Guard Medical Command. Currently the CFMO occupies seven separate facilities on Camp Rapid that were built in the 1930s. These buildings are inadequate and unsuitable for rehabilitation.

- **\$1.95 million, Troop Medical Clinic Addition/Alteration, Camp Rapid**

- The proposed addition and alteration of the Troop Medical Clinic (TMC) will provide additional patient bays, exam rooms and administrative space which will relieve a serious overcrowding issue within the current facility. This facility upgrade will provide support for the Medical Command in conducting annual Periodic Health Assessments (PHA) and flight physicals which will in turn improve the readiness of the units in the South Dakota National Guard (SDNG). The existing space will be altered to maximize the use of the current building. Alternate buildings were looked at to move the TMC, but are not fit for rehabilitation.

- **\$389,600, South Dakota Science and Technology Authority for Infrastructure Improvements to Homestake Mine, Lead**

- Funding would be used for infrastructure improvements at the Homestake mine for the purpose of reopening the mine down to the 4,850-foot level as the Sanford Underground Laboratory and ultimately demonstrating the feasibility of a bigger, deeper laboratory at the Homestake- Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL). Infrastructure projects at the Homestake facility are needed to continue development of the DUSEL and will have positive impact on South Dakota and the nation at large by facilitating creation of jobs, fueling education, and spurring US scientific competitiveness.

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